

I urge the House of Representatives to pass this bill, which now contains additional provisions the House has insisted upon. There is no opposition to this bill to my knowledge.

I respectfully urge the Senate and the House of Representatives to grant passage of this bill before adjournment. It is imperative that we ensure that our nation's most vulnerable homeowners are no longer victimized. Without final passage of this bill, our very low-income elderly homeowners may continue to be preyed upon. I ask for immediate support of this vital legislation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

50 STATES COMMEMORATIVE COIN PROGRAM ACT

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of calendar No. 244, S. 1128.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1128) to provide a 10-year circulating commemorative coin program to commemorate each of the 50 States, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill which had been reported from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, with an amendment to insert the part printed in italic:

S. 1128

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "50 States Commemorative Coin Program Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds that—

(1) it is appropriate and timely—

(A) to honor the unique Federal republic of 50 States that comprise the United States; and

(B) to promote the diffusion of knowledge among the youth of the United States about the individual States, their history and geography, and the rich diversity of the national heritage;

(2) the circulating coinage of the United States has not been modernized during the 25-year period preceding the date of enactment of this Act;

(3) a circulating commemorative 25-cent coin program could produce earnings of \$110,000,000 from the sale of silver proof coins and sets over the 10-year period of issuance, and would produce indirect earnings of an estimated \$2,600,000,000 to \$5,100,000,000 to the United States Treasury, money that will replace borrowing to fund the national debt to at least that extent; and

(4) it is appropriate to launch a commemorative circulating coin program that encourages young people and their families to collect memorable tokens of all of the States for the face value of the coins.

SEC. 3. ISSUANCE OF REDESIGNED QUARTER DOLLARS OVER 10-YEAR PERIOD COMMEMORATING EACH OF THE 50 STATES.

Section 5112 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting after subsection (k) the following new subsection:

"(1) REDESIGN AND ISSUANCE OF QUARTER DOLLAR IN COMMEMORATION OF EACH OF THE 50 STATES.—

"(1) REDESIGN BEGINNING IN 1999.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the fourth sentence of subsection (d)(1) and subsection (d)(2), quarter dollar coins issued during the 10-year period beginning in 1999, shall have designs on the reverse side selected in accordance with this subsection which are emblematic of the 50 States.

"(B) TRANSITION PROVISION.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), the Secretary may continue to mint and issue quarter dollars in 1999 which bear the design in effect before the redesign required under this subsection and an inscription of the year '1998' as required to ensure a smooth transition into the 10-year program under this subsection.

"(2) SINGLE STATE DESIGNS.—The design on the reverse side of each quarter dollar issued during the 10-year period referred to in paragraph (1) shall be emblematic of 1 of the 50 States.

"(3) ISSUANCE OF COINS COMMEMORATING 5 STATES DURING EACH OF THE 10 YEARS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The designs for the quarter dollar coins issued during each year of the 10-year period referred to in paragraph (1) shall be emblematic of 5 States selected in the order in which such States ratified the Constitution of the United States or were admitted into the Union, as the case may be.

"(B) NUMBER OF EACH OF 5 COIN DESIGNS IN EACH YEAR.—Of the quarter dollar coins issued during each year of the 10-year period referred to in paragraph (1), the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe, on the basis of such factors as the Secretary determines to be appropriate, the number of quarter dollars which shall be issued with each of the 5 designs selected for such year.

"(4) SELECTION OF DESIGN.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Each of the 50 designs required under this subsection for quarter dollars shall be—

"(i) selected by the Secretary after consultation with—

"(I) the Governor of the State being commemorated, or such other State officials or group as the State may designate for such purpose; and

"(II) the Commission of Fine Arts; and

"(ii) reviewed by the Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee.

"(B) SELECTION AND APPROVAL PROCESS.—Designs for quarter dollars may be submitted in accordance with the design selection and approval process developed by the Secretary in the sole discretion of the Secretary.

"(C) PARTICIPATION.—The Secretary may include participation by State officials, artists from the States, engravers of the United States Mint, and members of the general public.

"(D) STANDARDS.—Because it is important that the Nation's coinage and currency bear dignified designs of which the citizens of the United States can be proud, the Secretary shall not select any frivolous or inappropriate design for any quarter dollar minted under this subsection.

"(E) PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN REPRESENTATIONS.—No head and shoulders portrait or bust of any person, living or dead, and no portrait of a living person may be included in the design of any quarter dollar under this subsection.

"(5) TREATMENT AS NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136, all coins

minted under this subsection shall be considered to be numismatic items.

"(6) ISSUANCE.—

"(A) QUALITY OF COINS.—The Secretary may mint and issue such number of quarter dollars of each design selected under paragraph (4) in uncirculated and proof qualities as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

"(B) SILVER COINS.—Notwithstanding subsection (b), the Secretary may mint and issue such number of quarter dollars of each design selected under paragraph (4) as the Secretary determines to be appropriate, with a content of 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

"(C) SOURCES OF BULLION.—The Secretary shall obtain silver for minting coins under subparagraph (B) from available resources, including stockpiles established under the Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act.

"(7) APPLICATION IN EVENT OF THE ADMISSION OF ADDITIONAL STATES.—If any additional State is admitted into the Union before the end of the 10-year period referred to in paragraph (1), the Secretary of the Treasury may issue quarter dollar coins, in accordance with this subsection, with a design which is emblematic of such State during any 1 year of such 10-year period, in addition to the quarter dollar coins issued during such year in accordance with paragraph (3)(A)."

SEC. 4. UNITED STATES DOLLAR COINS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the "United States \$1 Coin Act of 1997".

(b) WEIGHT.—Section 5112(a)(1) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by striking "and weighs 8.1 grams".

(c) COLOR AND CONTENT.—Section 5112(b) of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking "dollar,"; and

(2) by inserting after the fourth sentence the following: "The dollar coin shall be golden in color, have a distinctive edge, have tactile and visual features that make the denomination of the coin readily discernible, be minted and fabricated in the United States, and have similar metallic, anti-counterfeiting properties as United States clad coinage in circulation on the date of enactment of the United States \$1 Coin Act of 1997."

(d) DESIGN.—Section 5112(d)(1) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by striking the fifth and sixth sentences and inserting the following: "The Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Congress, shall select appropriate designs for the obverse and reverse sides of the dollar coin."

(e) PRODUCTION OF NEW DOLLAR COINS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Upon the depletion of the Government's supply (as of the date of enactment of this Act) of \$1 coins bearing the likeness of Susan B. Anthony, the Secretary of the Treasury shall place into circulation \$1 coins that comply with the requirements of subsections (b) and (d)(1) of section 5112 of title 31, United States Code, as amended by this section.

(2) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY TO CONTINUE PRODUCTION.—If the supply of \$1 coins bearing the likeness of Susan B. Anthony is depleted before production has begun of \$1 coins which bear a design which complies with the requirements of subsections (b) and (d)(1) of section 5112 of title 31, United States Code, as amended by this section, the Secretary of the Treasury may continue to mint and issue \$1 coins bearing the likeness of Susan B. Anthony in accordance with that section 5112 (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act) until such time as production begins.

(3) NUMISMATIC SETS.—The Secretary may include such \$1 coins in any numismatic set produced by the United States Mint before the date on which the \$1 coins authorized by this section are placed in circulation.

(f) **MARKETING PROGRAM.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Before placing into circulation \$1 coins authorized under this section, the Secretary of the Treasury shall adopt a program to promote the use of such coins by commercial enterprises, mass transit authorities, and Federal, State, and local government agencies.

(2) **STUDY REQUIRED.**—The Secretary of the Treasury shall conduct a study on the progress of the marketing program adopted in accordance with paragraph (1).

(3) **REPORT.**—Not later than March 31, 2001, the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit a report to the Congress on the results of the study conducted pursuant to paragraph (2).

SEC. 5. FIRST FLIGHT COMMEMORATIVE COINS.(a) **COIN SPECIFICATIONS.**—

(1) **DENOMINATIONS.**—The Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this section referred to as the "Secretary") shall mint and issue the following coins:

(A) **\$10 GOLD COINS.**—Not more than 100,000 \$10 coins, each of which shall—

- (i) weigh 16.718 grams;
- (ii) have a diameter of 1.06 inches; and
- (iii) contain 90 percent gold and 10 percent alloy.

(B) **\$1 SILVER COINS.**—Not more than 500,000 \$1 coins, each of which shall—

- (i) weigh 26.73 grams;
- (ii) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and
- (iii) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

(C) **HALF DOLLAR CLAD COINS.**—Not more than 750,000 half dollar coins each of which shall—

- (i) weigh 11.34 grams;
- (ii) have a diameter of 1.205 inches; and
- (iii) be minted to the specifications for half dollar coins contained in section 5112(b) of title 31, United States Code.

(b) **LEGAL TENDER.**—The coins minted under this section shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) **SOURCES OF BULLION.**—The Secretary shall obtain gold and silver for minting coins under this section pursuant to the authority of the Secretary under other provisions of law, including authority relating to the use of silver stockpiles established under the Strategic and Critical Materials Stockpiling Act, as applicable.

(d) **DESIGN OF COINS.**—(1) **DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The design of the coins minted under this section shall be emblematic of the first flight of Orville and Wilbur Wright in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, on December 17, 1903.

(B) **DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.**—On each coin minted under this section there shall be—

- (i) a designation of the value of the coin;
- (ii) an inscription of the year "2003"; and
- (iii) inscriptions of the words "Liberty", "In God We Trust", "United States of America", and "E Pluribus Unum".

(2) **SELECTION.**—The design for the coins minted under this section shall be—

(A) selected by the Secretary after consultation with the Board of Directors of the First Flight Foundation and the Commission of Fine Arts; and

(B) reviewed by the Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee.

(e) **PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE OF COINS.**—The Secretary may issue coins minted under this section only during the period beginning on August 1, 2003, and ending on July 31, 2004.

(f) **SALE OF COINS.**—

(1) **SALE PRICE.**—The coins issued under this section shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of—

- (A) the face value of the coins;
- (B) the surcharge provided in paragraph (4) with respect to such coins; and
- (C) the cost of designing and issuing the coins (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

(2) **BULK SALES.**—The Secretary shall make bulk sales of the coins issued under this section at a reasonable discount.

(3) **PREPAID ORDERS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted under this section before the issuance of such coins.

(B) **DISCOUNT.**—Sale prices with respect to prepaid orders under subparagraph (A) shall be at a reasonable discount.

(4) **SURCHARGES.**—All sales shall include a surcharge of—

- (A) \$35 per coin for the \$10 coin;
- (B) \$10 per coin for the \$1 coin; and
- (C) \$1 per coin for the half dollar coin.

(5) **MARKETING EXPENSES.**—The Secretary shall ensure that—

- (A) a plan is established for marketing the coins minted under this section; and
- (B) adequate funds are made available to cover the costs of carrying out that marketing plan.

(g) **GENERAL WAIVER OF PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in paragraph (2), no provision of law governing procurement or public contracts shall be applicable to the procurement of goods and services necessary for carrying out the provisions of this Act.

(2) **EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY.**—Paragraph (1) does not relieve any person entering into a contract under the authority of this section from complying with any law relating to equal employment opportunity.

(h) **TREATMENT AS NUMISMATIC ITEMS.**—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this subsection shall be considered to be numismatic items.

(i) **DISTRIBUTION OF SURCHARGES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to section 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this section shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the First Flight Foundation for the purposes of—

- (A) repairing, refurbishing, and maintaining the Wright Brothers Monument on the Outer Banks of North Carolina; and
- (B) expanding (or, if necessary, replacing) and maintaining the visitor center and other facilities at the Wright Brothers National Memorial Park on the Outer Banks of North Carolina, including providing educational programs and exhibits for visitors.

(2) **AUDITS.**—The Comptroller General of the United States shall have the right to examine such books, records, documents, and other data of the First Flight Foundation as may be related to the expenditures of amounts paid under paragraph (1).

(j) **FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.**—The Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that minting and issuing coins under this section will not result in any net cost to the United States Government.

AMENDMENT NO. 1631

(Purpose: To make a series of amendments)
Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, Senators D'AMATO and SARBANES have an amendment at the desk, and I ask for its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS), for Mr. D'AMATO for himself and Mr. SARBANES, proposes an amendment numbered 1631.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

On page 14, strike lines 4 through 10.

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act or the amendments made by this Act shall be construed to evidence any intention to eliminate or to limit the printing or circulation of United States currency in the \$1 denomination.

Mr. BOND. With respect to the Manager's Amendment, I would like to ask the Senator to clarify his intent. As I understand the amendment regarding the dollar coin language, it is your intent, as chairman of the committee, and it is the intent of the Banking Committee that S. 1228, as amended, will not in any way restrict the continued printing and circulation of the dollar bill.

Mr. D'AMATO. That is correct. Moreover, when S. 1228, as amended, is adopted, this will similarly indicate the intent of Congress that the dollar bill shall continue to be printed and shall remain in circulation.

Mr. THOMPSON. There is a provision in the amended version of S. 1228 that I feel needs clarification. In setting the design parameters for the new dollar coin, the legislation makes clear that the coin should be golden in color, have a distinctive edge, and include other features to ensure that the coin is not confused with any existing coins. The last design parameter within the legislation states that the coin should have anticounterfeiting properties of coinage in circulation at the time of the bill's enactment. I ask the Senator, is this provision intended to require the Mint to use clad coin technology in the new dollar coin?

Mr. GRAMS. No, that provision is intended to be descriptive. The Mint is instructed to utilize anticounterfeiting technology.

Mr. COATS. I thank Senator GRAMS for his answer. Is this provision intended to limit the Mint's choice of technology in the development of the dollar coin? For instance, could the Mint choose a plated coin rather than a clad coin?

Mr. GRAMS. This provision is not intended to limit the U.S. Mint's use of technology or approach to design. We intend for the Mint to develop a dollar coin that meets the needs of the public and is not subject to counterfeiting. If the Mint believes that a plated coin will offer the best approach to meeting its needs, then a plated coin could be developed.

Mr. FRIST. Thus, it is not the Committee's intention to limit the Mint's flexibility, to require a certain coin technology or to limit competition among potential suppliers of coin blanks?

Mr. GRAMS. The Senator from Tennessee has stated the situation exactly. The Committee is directing the Mint to develop the best possible dollar coin. We have not sought to limit the Mint or require a clad coin.

Mr. FRIST. I thank the Senator for his answer.

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, I am very pleased that the one dollar coin bill is a part of this legislation. I have long been a supporter of legislation authorizing the production of a new dollar coin, and was an original cosponsor of the dollar coin bill, which became part of this coin legislation.

Changing the currency or the coinage of the United States always involves an element of controversy. After all, virtually everyone uses money—every day. Americans are familiar with our currency and coinage, and they understandably and justifiably have opinions on whether to change it. There are a number of reasons, however, why this change is necessary.

Unfortunately, today's dollar is not worth what it once was. In fact, the dollar's value has declined by over a factor of four in just the last 35 years. When I was a teenager, you could get a hamburger, fries and a small coke at McDonald's for 42 cents. Now the cost is over \$2. You could get a Chicago Tribune and a Chicago Sun-Times for 10 cents. Now the Tribune costs 50 cents and the Sun-Times 35 cents. I could go on and on, but the point is simple—inflation has made the dollar worth less than a quarter was when John F. Kennedy was President of the United States.

Perhaps the most telling illustration of the erosion of value of our currency and coinage is the fact that so many stores now have a "penny" dish in front of their cash registers—inviting their customers to take a penny or two or leave a penny or two to make their transactions come out to the nearest nickel. It is that kind of change in the value of money that led Great Britain to replace the one-pound note with a one-pound coin. And it is that fact that led Canada to replace its one-dollar bill with a one-dollar coin.

These foreign countries, and many others, understood that they needed to update their currency and coinage to fit present-day economic realities—and that need is no less real in this country. That is why I cosponsored this legislation, because I believe that updating our money to reflect current economic realities is long overdue. I think we should act carefully. I think the coin must be designed carefully. We need to learn from past mistakes, but we should not let those past mistakes keep us from taking the action that is necessary now.

Secondly, in many instances, a dollar coin would be more practical than a paper note. I'm sure we've all had a run-in with a balky dollar bill changer, one that simply won't take our dollar for a subway ride or a soft drink, no matter how many times we straighten the dollar.

Finally, the use of a dollar coin would save money. For example, the Chicago Transit Authority would save over \$2 million annually, because coins are easier and less expensive to process than bills. Many manufacturers that

serve the vending industry and coin-operated industry would also save money because it is less expensive to retrofit machines to accept dollar coins, than to add a dollar bill changer to machines.

However, the dollar coin we have currently, known as the "Susan B. Anthony," lacks sufficient public acceptance to make it effective. This coin too closely resembles the quarter in appearance and texture. Moreover, according to the Mint, the supply of these coins is decreasing, and more would have to be minted within the next few years if the coin were not replaced. This legislation calls for the replacement of the Susan B. Anthony coin with a coin that is golden in color and smooth edged so that it is more easily differentiated from the quarter.

The Susan B. Anthony coin is, unfortunately, the only American currency in circulation that honors the achievements of a woman. Since the Susan B. Anthony coin will no longer be widely circulated, it is only appropriate that the design of this new coin depict a woman or women of historical significance. To that end, I believe that the new coin should depict the images of Sojourner Truth, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott and Susan B. Anthony. These four women were staunch abolitionists, and fought for equal rights for women. It is largely through their efforts that women have opportunities for higher education, the right to control their own property and children, the right to hold public office and the right to vote.

Three of these women, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, and Susan B. Anthony, have been honored with a statue in the Capitol. This statue, however, was carved in 1921, and failed to include Sojourner Truth, the great abolitionist, feminist and preacher. This coin provides an excellent opportunity to recognize the contributions of Sojourner Truth, along with her fellow women's rights advocates.

Sojourner Truth was born into slavery in 1797 in New York State. Freed in 1827 under the New York State Emancipation Act, she spent the next 53 years preaching and lecturing about God, abolition and women's rights.

Sojourner Truth was an advocate of women's rights. She consistently supported equality among all people. In 1851, Sojourner Truth spoke at a Women's Rights Convention in Akron, Ohio. Despite widely voiced concerns by many of the white women in attendance that they did not want an African American speaking, potentially confusing and tarnishing their cause, Sojourner Truth rose to respond to male preachers who were denouncing women's rights based on the inherent frailty of women:

I want to say a few words about this matter. I am a woman's rights. I have as much muscle as any man and can do as much work as any man. I have plowed and reaped and husked and chopped and mowed, and can any man do more than that? I have heard much

about the sexes being equal; I can carry as much as any man, and can eat as much, too, if I can get it. I am as strong as any man that is now . . . Why, children, if you have woman's rights, give it to her and you will feel better. You will have your own rights, and they won't be so much trouble . . .

She inspired the Convention and women's rights advocates as she did all of her audiences.

Sojourner Truth dedicated her life to achieving equality. She considered herself to be on a sojourn to tell the truth, a sojourn directed by God. It would be a fitting tribute to Sojourner Truth and to the truth which she preached, to honor her by depicting her image on the dollar coin, along with her fellow women's rights crusaders, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, and Susan B. Anthony.

Along with a number of my colleagues on the Senate Banking Committee, I filed additional views with the committee report of this legislation, indicating our support for the four suffragettes. We also intend to make our views known to Secretary Rubin, who has the authority to select the design of the coin. I urge my colleagues to support this effort to ensure that the mistake made in 1921 is rectified and that Sojourner Truth can take her rightful place with the other suffragettes who fought for equal rights for all Americans.

AMENDMENT NO. 1632

(Purpose: To make an amendment relating to coinage.)

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I understand that Senator COATS has an amendment at the desk, and I ask for its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Alabama Mr. SESSIONS, for Mr. COATS, proposes an amendment numbered 1632.

On Page 8, line 11, strike "clad".

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the amendments be agreed to, the committee amendment be agreed to, the bill be considered read a third time and passed, as amended, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill appear at this point in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendments (Nos. 1631 and 1632) were agreed to.

The committee amendment was agreed to.

The bill (S. 1228), as amended, was passed, as follows:

S. 1228

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "50 States Commemorative Coin Program Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds that—

(1) it is appropriate and timely—

(A) to honor the unique Federal republic of 50 States that comprise the United States; and

(B) to promote the diffusion of knowledge among the youth of the United States about the individual States, their history and geography, and the rich diversity of the national heritage;

(2) the circulating coinage of the United States has not been modernized during the 25-year period preceding the date of enactment of this Act;

(3) a circulating commemorative 25-cent coin program could produce earnings of \$110,000,000 from the sale of silver proof coins and sets over the 10-year period of issuance, and would produce indirect earnings of an estimated \$2,600,000,000 to \$5,100,000,000 to the United States Treasury, money that will replace borrowing to fund the national debt to at least that extent; and

(4) it is appropriate to launch a commemorative circulating coin program that encourages young people and their families to collect memorable tokens of all of the States for the face value of the coins.

SEC. 3. ISSUANCE OF REDESIGNED QUARTER DOLLARS OVER 10-YEAR PERIOD COMMEMORATING EACH OF THE 50 STATES.

Section 5112 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting after subsection (k) the following new subsection:

“(l) REDESIGN AND ISSUANCE OF QUARTER DOLLAR IN COMMEMORATION OF EACH OF THE 50 STATES.—

“(1) REDESIGN BEGINNING IN 1999.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the fourth sentence of subsection (d)(1) and subsection (d)(2), quarter dollar coins issued during the 10-year period beginning in 1999, shall have designs on the reverse side selected in accordance with this subsection which are emblematic of the 50 States.

“(B) TRANSITION PROVISION.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), the Secretary may continue to mint and issue quarter dollars in 1999 which bear the design in effect before the redesign required under this subsection and an inscription of the year ‘1998’ as required to ensure a smooth transition into the 10-year program under this subsection.

“(2) SINGLE STATE DESIGNS.—The design on the reverse side of each quarter dollar issued during the 10-year period referred to in paragraph (1) shall be emblematic of 1 of the 50 States.

“(3) ISSUANCE OF COINS COMMEMORATING 5 STATES DURING EACH OF THE 10 YEARS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The designs for the quarter dollar coins issued during each year of the 10-year period referred to in paragraph (1) shall be emblematic of 5 States selected in the order in which such States ratified the Constitution of the United States or were admitted into the Union, as the case may be.

“(B) NUMBER OF EACH OF 5 COIN DESIGNS IN EACH YEAR.—Of the quarter dollar coins issued during each year of the 10-year period referred to in paragraph (1), the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe, on the basis of such factors as the Secretary determines to be appropriate, the number of quarter dollars which shall be issued with each of the 5 designs selected for such year.

“(4) SELECTION OF DESIGN.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Each of the 50 designs required under this subsection for quarter dollars shall be—

“(i) selected by the Secretary after consultation with—

“(I) the Governor of the State being commemorated, or such other State officials or group as the State may designate for such purpose; and

“(II) the Commission of Fine Arts; and

“(ii) reviewed by the Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee.

“(B) SELECTION AND APPROVAL PROCESS.—Designs for quarter dollars may be submitted

in accordance with the design selection and approval process developed by the Secretary in the sole discretion of the Secretary.

“(C) PARTICIPATION.—The Secretary may include participation by State officials, artists from the States, engravers of the United States Mint, and members of the general public.

“(D) STANDARDS.—Because it is important that the Nation’s coinage and currency bear dignified designs of which the citizens of the United States can be proud, the Secretary shall not select any frivolous or inappropriate design for any quarter dollar minted under this subsection.

“(E) PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN REPRESENTATIONS.—No head and shoulders portrait or bust of any person, living or dead, and no portrait of a living person may be included in the design of any quarter dollar under this subsection.

“(5) TREATMENT AS NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136, all coins minted under this subsection shall be considered to be numismatic items.

“(6) ISSUANCE.—

“(A) QUALITY OF COINS.—The Secretary may mint and issue such number of quarter dollars of each design selected under paragraph (4) in uncirculated and proof qualities as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

“(B) SILVER COINS.—Notwithstanding subsection (b), the Secretary may mint and issue such number of quarter dollars of each design selected under paragraph (4) as the Secretary determines to be appropriate, with a content of 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

“(C) SOURCES OF BULLION.—The Secretary shall obtain silver for minting coins under subparagraph (B) from available resources, including stockpiles established under the Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act.

“(7) APPLICATION IN EVENT OF THE ADMISSION OF ADDITIONAL STATES.—If any additional State is admitted into the Union before the end of the 10-year period referred to in paragraph (1), the Secretary of the Treasury may issue quarter dollar coins, in accordance with this subsection, with a design which is emblematic of such State during any 1 year of such 10-year period, in addition to the quarter dollar coins issued during such year in accordance with paragraph (3)(A).”

SEC. 4. UNITED STATES DOLLAR COINS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the “United States \$1 Coin Act of 1997.”

(b) WEIGHT.—Section 5112(a)(1) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by striking “and weighs 8.1 grams”.

(c) COLOR AND CONTENT.—Section 5112(b) of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking “dollar,”; and

(2) by inserting after the fourth sentence the following: “The dollar coin shall be golden in color, have a distinctive edge, have tactile and visual features that make the denomination of the coin readily discernible, be minted and fabricated in the United States, and have similar metallic, anti-counterfeiting properties as United States clad coinage in circulation on the date of enactment of the United States \$1 Coin Act of 1997.”

(d) DESIGN.—Section 5112(d)(1) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by striking the fifth and sixth sentences and inserting the following: “The Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Congress, shall select appropriate designs for the obverse and reverse sides of the dollar coin.”

(e) PRODUCTION OF NEW DOLLAR COINS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Upon the depletion of the Government’s supply (as of the date of enactment of this Act) of \$1 coins bearing the likeness of Susan B. Anthony, the Secretary of the Treasury shall place into circulation \$1 coins that comply with the requirements of subsections (b) and (d)(1) of section 5112 of title 31, United States Code, as amended by this section.

(2) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY TO CONTINUE PRODUCTION.—If the supply of \$1 coins bearing the likeness of Susan B. Anthony is depleted before production has begun of \$1 coins which bear a design which complies with the requirements of subsections (b) and (d)(1) of section 5112 of title 31, United States Code, as amended by this section, the Secretary of the Treasury may continue to mint and issue \$1 coins bearing the likeness of Susan B. Anthony in accordance with that section 5112 (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act) until such time as production begins.

(3) NUMISMATIC SETS.—The Secretary may include such \$1 coins in any numismatic set produced by the United States Mint before the date on which the \$1 coins authorized by this section are placed in circulation.

(f) MARKETING PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Before placing into circulation \$1 coins authorized under this section, the Secretary of the Treasury shall adopt a program to promote the use of such coins by commercial enterprises, mass transit authorities, and Federal, State, and local government agencies.

(2) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall conduct a study on the progress of the marketing program adopted in accordance with paragraph (1).

(3) REPORT.—Not later than March 31, 2001, the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit a report to the Congress on the results of the study conducted pursuant to paragraph (2).

SEC. 5. FIRST FLIGHT COMMEMORATIVE COINS.

(a) COIN SPECIFICATIONS.—

(1) DENOMINATIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this section referred to as the “Secretary”) shall mint and issue the following coins:

(A) \$10 GOLD COINS.—Not more than 100,000 \$10 coins, each of which shall—

(i) weigh 16.718 grams;

(ii) have a diameter of 1.06 inches; and

(iii) contain 90 percent gold and 10 percent alloy.

(B) \$1 SILVER COINS.—Not more than 500,000 \$1 coins, each of which shall—

(i) weigh 26.73 grams;

(ii) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

(iii) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

(C) HALF DOLLAR CLAD COINS.—Not more than 750,000 half dollar coins each of which shall—

(i) weigh 11.34 grams;

(ii) have a diameter of 1.205 inches; and

(iii) be minted to the specifications for half dollar coins contained in section 5112(b) of title 31, United States Code.

(b) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this section shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) SOURCES OF BULLION.—The Secretary shall obtain gold and silver for minting coins under this section pursuant to the authority of the Secretary under other provisions of law, including authority relating to the use of silver stockpiles established under the Strategic and Critical Materials Stockpiling Act, as applicable.

(d) DESIGN OF COINS.—

(1) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins minted under this section shall be emblematic of the first flight of Orville and Wilbur

Wright in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, on December 17, 1903.

(B) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On each coin minted under this section there shall be—

- (i) a designation of the value of the coin;
- (ii) an inscription of the year “2003”; and
- (iii) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”, “In God We Trust”, “United States of America”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

(2) SELECTION.—The design for the coins minted under this section shall be—

(A) selected by the Secretary after consultation with the Board of Directors of the First Flight Foundation and the Commission of Fine Arts; and

(B) reviewed by the Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee.

(e) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE OF COINS.—The Secretary may issue coins minted under this section only during the period beginning on August 1, 2003, and ending on July 31, 2004.

(f) SALE OF COINS.—

(1) SALE PRICE.—The coins issued under this section shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of—

- (A) the face value of the coins;
- (B) the surcharge provided in paragraph (4) with respect to such coins; and
- (C) the cost of designing and issuing the coins (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

(2) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make bulk sales of the coins issued under this section at a reasonable discount.

(3) PREPAID ORDERS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted under this section before the issuance of such coins.

(B) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to prepaid orders under subparagraph (A) shall be at a reasonable discount.

(4) SURCHARGES.—All sales shall include a surcharge of—

- (A) \$35 per coin for the \$10 coin;
- (B) \$10 per coin for the \$1 coin; and
- (C) \$1 per coin for the half dollar coin.

SEC. 6. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act or the amendments made by this Act shall be construed to evidence any intention to eliminate or to limit the printing or circulation of United States currency in the \$1 denomination.

(g) GENERAL WAIVER OF PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), no provision of law governing procurement or public contracts shall be applicable to the procurement of goods and services necessary for carrying out the provisions of this Act.

(2) EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY.—Paragraph (1) does not relieve any person entering into a contract under the authority of

this section from complying with any law relating to equal employment opportunity.

(h) TREATMENT AS NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this subsection shall be considered to be numismatic items.

(i) DISTRIBUTION OF SURCHARGES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to section 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this section shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the First Flight Foundation for the purposes of—

(A) repairing, refurbishing, and maintaining the Wright Brothers Monument on the Outer Banks of North Carolina; and

(B) expanding (or, if necessary, replacing) and maintaining the visitor center and other facilities at the Wright Brothers National Memorial Park on the Outer Banks of North Carolina, including providing educational programs and exhibits for visitors.

(2) AUDITS.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall have the right to examine such books, records, documents, and other data of the First Flight Foundation as may be related to the expenditures of amounts paid under paragraph (1).

(j) FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.—The Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that minting and issuing coins under this section will not result in any net cost to the United States Government.